THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Rs.1CN and Rs. 2CN coin sized 26 mm dia are in circulation. The Shape of the coins is however different. Re. 1 coin is round in shape whereas Rs. 2 coin is 11 sided.

(b) and (c) There is no move to withdraw these coins at present.

[Translation]

Use of Hindi

3661. SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of sittings of Hindi Consultative Committee that have taken place during the last three years;

(b) whether all recommendations made by the Committee have since been implemented;

(c) whether the Government propose to constitute new Hindi Consultative Committee; and

(d) if so, by when ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) There are two Hindi Salahakar Samitis in the Ministry of Industry. One is for the Departments of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Industrial Development and Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries and the other for the Departments of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises.

The Hindi Salahakar Samiti for the Departments of Industrial Policy & Promotion, Industrial Development and Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries has met six times during the last three years. The Hindi Salahkar Samiti for the Departments of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises was constituted in March.1995 and has met once since then.

(b) In the meetings of the Hindi Salahakar Samiti, progressive use of Hindi in all the Departments, including attached and subordinate offices is reviewed. Every possible effort is made to implement the suggestions of the members of the Samiti.

(c) and (d) The tenure of the last Hindi Salahakar Samiti of the Departments of Industrial Policy & Promotions, Industrial Development and Small Scale Industries and Agro & Rural Industries expired on 10.11.1995 and the same is being reconstituted.

[English]

Export of Palm Sugar, Fibre and Stalks

Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the total quantity of palm-sugar, palm fibre and stalks exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during each of the last three years, country-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH) : Country-wise and item-wise details are available in the Monthly Statistics of the Foreign Trade of India, Volume-I (Exports) published by the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence & Statistics, copies of which upto January, 1996 are available in the Parliament library. Country-wise and item-wise export figures for the month of February and March 1996 are not available. The item 'Palm Stalks' is not separately specified in the ITC (HS) Coding Book and therefore, its details are not available in the document.

[Translation]

Recommendation of Abid Hussain Committee

3663. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Abid Hussain Committee was constituted to examine the problems of the small scale industries;

(b) if so, the terms of reference of the Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made and the action taken by the Government thereon; and

(e) if not, the reasons for delay and the time by which the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee are given below:

(i) To examine the impact and efficacy of the promotional protective policies and direct assistance programme for SSI in the light of recent economic reforms and suggest appropriate changes.

(ii) To review the definition, legal framework and the hectregenous opposition of the small scale sector and recommend appropriate changes for realisation of the objectives.

(iii) To examine the efficacy & desirability of the reservation policy for the small industries and made suitable recommendation.

(iv) To examine the present arrangements and sources for the collection, compilation, dissemination and